

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 13 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3, 12 and 14 have been amended. New claim 21 has been added. Claims 1, 3-12, 14-21 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowable subject matter as noted in paragraph 3 of the Action on page 2. In this regard, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations set forth in now cancelled claim 2, which the Action indicates are allowable. Similarly, claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the limitations set forth in now cancelled claim 13, which the Action indicates are allowable. Claims 3 and 14 have been amended to change their dependency from cancelled claims to independent claims 1 and 12, respectively. New claim 21 has been added that recites all the limitations of independent claim 1 and the limitations recited by dependent claim 4, which the Action indicates are allowable.

Conclusion

For all the reasons advanced above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are requested, and allowance is earnestly solicited at an early date. The Examiner is invited

to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any suggestions, thoughts or comments, which might expedite the prosecution of this case.

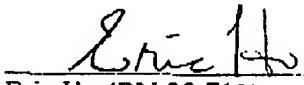
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (fax no.: 571-273-8300) on the date below.


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May 17, 2006
(Date)